

The outpouring of gratitude and love for Tom and Ann has been enormous, in particular at the May 18, 2019, convention, where Vermont Episcopalians elected their next bishop. The applause would not cease until Bishop Ely motioned for quiet, so that proceedings could continue. Bishop Ely is loved by his people and greatly appreciated by many Vermonters for his principled leadership. He made a difference, helping us to live up to our ideals, and will be fondly remembered, as he and Ann enter a new phase of their lives. Marcelle and I are delighted that Tom and Ann will continue to be citizens of Vermont, living in the beautiful town of Newfane. We both value their friendship.

In honor of Bishop Ely's retirement, I ask that the December 5, 2017, Episcopal New Service article "Vermont Episcopal Bishop Thomas Ely announces plans to retire," be entered into the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Episcopal News Service, Dec. 5, 2017]

**VERMONT EPISCOPAL BISHOP THOMAS ELY
ANNOUNCES PLAN TO RETIRE**

The Right Reverend Thomas C. Ely, tenth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, recently announced his intention to retire and resign his ministry, no later than September 30, 2019. He has agreed to remain in his position until a successor is chosen and is in place.

Ely, 65, was consecrated as bishop of the Vermont diocese in 2001, having previously served as a priest in the Diocese of Connecticut for 20 years. In a message to the people of the Diocese of Vermont, Ely said that by the time of his retirement he will have served in the priesthood for nearly 39 years.

"There are other interests and ministries to which I am feeling called to devote my time and energy while my health and stamina are still good," Ely said, "including family, community theatre, various justice ministries and a bit more golf."

During his episcopate, Ely has been a leader both within the diocese and throughout the wider Episcopal Church on such controversial issues as marriage equality, the ordination of LGBT clergy, increased gun safety and racial justice. He is also a leading voice on matters of environmental and economic justice.

As part of his global outreach, Ely serves on the board of Cristosal, a nongovernmental agency based in El Salvador that works to advance human rights in Central America. Additionally, he is a co-founder of the Vermont chapter of Kids4Peace, a grassroots interfaith youth movement dedicated to ending conflict and inspiring hope in Jerusalem and divided societies around the world. More locally, Ely is a leading advocate for the Vermont Ecumenical Council and Vermont Interfaith Action.

Ely has been instrumental in the stewardship and revitalization of Rock Point, a 130-acre property in Burlington, owned by the Vermont diocese, known for its natural beauty and peaceful atmosphere. Each year, nearly 10,000 people visit Rock Point, and Ely is overseeing a \$1.7 million partnership campaign aimed at improving facilities, strengthening leadership and expanding public access.

Ely said that he and his wife, Ann, will take up residence in their house in Newfane, Vermont, upon his retirement. In the meantime, he says, "I plan to use these months ahead to continue encouraging full and passionate engagement in our local mission approaches, and I plan to continue my efforts related to a sustainable Rock Point and all that means to our life as the Episcopal Church in Vermont."

RECOGNIZING DARN TOUGH SOCKS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Darn Tough Vermont says that their factory in Northfield, Vermont, is the "Sock Capital of the World." I'm loath to object to that claim. Over the past 15 years, Darn Tough has steadily grown from a small sock producer for other companies into a world-renowned brand of their own. They've created good paying jobs to Vermont and have a deep commitment to American manufacturing. Darn Tough is a great example of the many hearty small businesses that drive Vermont's economy. It is with pride that I recognize their achievements.

Marc Cabot opened Darn Tough's factory, Cabot Hosiery Mills, in 1978. He started by producing private label socks—other companies sell these under their brand name—for large companies like Brooks Brothers and Old Navy. This was a steady business. But things became difficult in the 1990s when many of those customers began to move their production overseas. By the early 2000s, Cabot Hosiery Mills was struggling.

Marc's son, Ric, who had been involved in the family business from a young age, came up with an idea to save the company. He decided to transition Cabot Hosiery Mills from a private label producer to its own brand: Darn Tough Vermont. Ric envisioned a superior, outdoor-oriented sock that was knit right in Vermont. Its quality would speak for itself.

At first, Ric had to give Darn Tough socks away to get noticed. He gave out 3,500 pairs of Darn Tough socks at the Vermont City Marathon in 2004, and soon after word, began to spread about a mysteriously durable sock with a lifetime warranty produced right in Vermont. Darn Tough's brand and sales have been growing steadily ever since.

Over the past 15 years, the Cabots have rebounded from the brink of bankruptcy to a company nearing \$50 million in sales annually. Ric, who is now the CEO and president, is leading Darn Tough in its latest expansion. They've added over 50 new knitting stations and are in the process of expanding their workforce of over 250 Vermonters. Darn Tough doubled down on American manufacturing when their partners wouldn't—now they're seeing their reward.

I am proud to recognize the contributions and achievements that Darn Tough and the Cabot family has made over their over 40 years in Vermont. I ask consent to enter into the RECORD a VTDigger article titled "Making it in

Vermont: Darn Tough doubles down on Northfield facilities." It describes the hard work that goes into making each Darn Tough sock and highlights Darn Tough's commitment to Vermont and Vermont values.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From VTDigger, March 31, 2019]

**MAKING IT IN VERMONT: DARN TOUGH
DOUBLES DOWN ON NORTHFIELD FACILITIES**

Ask Kirk Smith how many colors of yarn are used at Cabot Hosiery Mills, and he'll tell you: "Too many."

The family-owned factory that produces Darn Tough socks will include up to 16 different threads in a single design. The operation spins out 22,000 pairs of socks every single day.

From the outside, the Northfield production facility isn't much to look at—it's big, beige and unmarked. But inside, thousands of spools of multicolored yarn hang from the ceiling, while computerized machines knit the threads into socks.

"If you had seen me when they took me on my tour when I was being interviewed here, I was like a kid in a candy shop," said Smith, the plant's manager of manufacturing operations. "I didn't want to leave the line. I just wanted to keep seeing what was going on."

Lined up in rows with their electronic displays blinking, the mill's 184 knitting stations resemble slot machines at a casino. But they have a more predictable output: roughly every five minutes, each one dispenses a fresh new sock.

Darn Tough is in the midst of an ambitious five-year expansion plan. In order to increase production, they're adding more machines, bringing their total to 236—for now. Ric Cabot, the company's president and CEO, said those machines will increase the mill's production by 1.5 million pairs of socks per year.

"Accommodating the new equipment required moving their packaging and distribution areas to another building about a mile down the road. That means the company's annual "sock sale"—two weekends in November when locals walk the warehouse looking for deals on factory seconds—will take place at the company's satellite location this year.

There are two sock seasons each year, and the factory works about six months ahead of schedule. Right now, they're mainly producing fall socks.

Each piece is knit, washed, dried, boarded, folded, inspected and packaged in Northfield, before being shipped off to the company's distribution center in Cleveland, Ohio.

"The Cabots have always been very dedicated to their Northfield roots," Smith said. "Could there be better places in the state? Maybe, but this is where they started. This is where they have a connection and this is where we'll be."

BUDGET SCOREKEEPING REPORT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I wish to submit to the Senate the budget scorekeeping report for May 2019. The report compares current-law levels of spending and revenues with the amounts the Senate agreed to in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, BBA18. This information is necessary for the Senate Budget Committee to determine whether budgetary points of order lie against pending legislation.